

INFORMATION ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

COUNTRY Paraguay

DATE DISTR. 26 November 1948

SUBJECT Paraguayan Infantry Guard on the Paraguayan-Argentine Border
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SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

1. Part of the 14th Infantry Regiment of Colonel Rogelio Benitez is engaged in guarding the Paraguayan coast along the river from Banado in the Sajonia district south to Ita Enramada. The main reason for this guard, which is the heaviest that has been placed along this area since the 1947 revolution, is to prevent the infiltration of Communist and Febrerista elements from the Clorinda, Argentina area. These elements were aware of the Military School's plans for revolt on 25 October 1948, and there were indications that some of them would have crossed the river and entered Asuncion if the revolt had lasted longer and shown promise of success.
2. The fear of Argentine aggression allegedly played no part in the stationing of this guard. The Asuncion police believed the Argentine gendarmerie conducted themselves very well during the 25 October revolt. When the fighting began in Asuncion the gendarmerie in Clorinda issued an order that no person should leave his house. The purpose of the order was to prevent anyone from crossing the river and entering Asuncion.

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